

**Amendments to the Abstract of the Disclosure**

A containment/exclusion boom includes a boom curtain containing an upper curtain portion and a lower curtain portion that are connected together at a central region, the upper and lower curtain portions each being formed of a sheet of flexible fabric material that allows the flow of water therethrough; and first and second support systems which can be positioned in a body of water and connected separately to distinct positions on the boom curtain; whereby the first and second support systems maintain at least one of, but preferably both, the upper and lower curtain portions in a substantially sloped arrangement upon introduction of the boom into the body of water. ~~Use of the boom for water filtration is also disclosed.~~